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General Assembly

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Fifty-eighth session
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Agenda item 121
Programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005

Draft resolution submitted by the Chairman following informal consultations

Special Court for Sierra Leone

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the request for a subvention to the Special Court for Sierra Leone[1] submitted in the response to the exchange of letters between the Secretary-General[2] and the President of the Security Council and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[3]

1. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Advisory Committee contained in its report[3] subject to the provisions of the present resolution, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to provide the necessary report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session;

2. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General, as an exceptional measure, to enter into commitments in an amount not to exceed 16,700,000 United States dollars to supplement the financial resources of the Special Court for Sierra Leone for the period from 1 July to 31 December 2004, on the understanding that any regular budget funds appropriated for the Court would be refunded to the United Nations at the time of liquidation of the Court should sufficient voluntary contributions be received;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in concert with the Management Committee, to redouble efforts to raise voluntary contributions to support the work of the Court, and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session on progress made;

4. *Appeals* to Member States, as a matter of urgency, to contribute voluntary funds in support of the Court and to honour existing pledges;

[1] A/58/733.
[2] S/2004/182 and S/2004/183.
[3] A/58/7/Add.30.

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5. *Notes* that the Court is expected to complete its work by 31 December 2005;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to invite the Special Court for Sierra Leone to adopt a completion strategy, and also requests the Secretary-General to inform the Security Council and the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session about this matter;

7. *Invites* the Management Committee to review the structure of the Court with a view to minimizing the cost of completing the Court's work, without adversely affecting the implementation of the legal agreement between the United Nations and the Government of Sierra Leone.